

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR KNAUER; CPSC FOR SIMPSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, OECD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER POLICY MEETING, JUNE
25-26

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED DE-RESTRICTION AFTER MINOR UP-DATING OF ANNUAL NATIONAL REPORTS ON CONSUMER POLICY, DECIDED TO SET UP A NEW WORKING PARTY ON CONSUMER CREDIT, AND ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1974 (PARA 2 BELOW). NO CONCLUSIONS WERE DRAWN FROM THE DISCUSSION OF LABELLING GUIDELINES. US PRESENTATION BY SIMPSON ON THE ROLE AND WORK OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION AND BY PETERSON AND WELLS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE US CONSUMER INFORMATION CENTER WERE WELL RECEIVED.

THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS WAS AGREED UPON:
WP ON CONSUMER CREDIT - SEPTEMBER 30; WP ON LABELLING - OCTOBER 1-2; WP ON SAFETY - OCTOBER 1-2; AD-HOC GROUP ON ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS - NOVEMBER 8. NEXT MEETING OF COMMITTEE WILL BE NOVEMBER 19-20; BUREAU WILL MEET NOVEMBER 18.

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ACTION REQUESTED: 1) US AMENDMENTS, IF ANY, TO NATIONAL

REPORT BY JULY 15, 1974.

2) COMMENT ON AD-HOC GROUP REPORT ON CONSUMER CREDIT
(HAND-CARRIED) BY SEPTEMBER 1, 1974.

3) COMMENTS ON NORDIC PROPOSAL TO STUDY IMPLICATIONS
FOR CONSUMER POLICY OF ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS SITUA-
TION, OCTOBER 1, 1974. END SUMMARY.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1974

COMMITTEE ELECTED SEABORN (CANADA) AS CHAIRMAN AND AS
VICE-CHAIRMEN, KNAUER (US), GODARD (BELGIUM), RAMBOW
(FRG), AND BROCH (NORWAY).

3. MISLEADING ADVERTISING

SWEDISH DELEGATION WILL PREPARE PAPER FOR NEXT MEETING
ON UNFAIR MARKETING PRACTICES, GIVING PARTICULAR ATTEN-
TION TO ACTIVITIES OF MNES. THOUGH EC AND COUNCIL OF
EUROPE HAVE DEALT WITH SIMILAR QUESTIONS, SWEDES WERE OF
OPINION THAT OECD BETTER FORUM AND THAT CCP SHOULD CONSI-
DER ESTABLISHMENT OF AD-HOC GROUP WHOSE MANDATE WOULD
INCLUDE EXAMINATION OF IMPROPER AND AGGRESSIVE MARKET-
ING PRACTICES.

4. CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION (DAF/CCP/74.42)

COMMITTEE APPROVED ESTABLISHMENT NEW WORKING PARTY
PROPOSED BY AD-HOC GROUP WHICH MET DAY BEFORE CCP. NEW
WP WILL ATTEMPT TO DRAFT PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE MEMBER
GOVERNMENTS IN CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION. IN ADDITION
TO AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, US, UK AND EC
(MEMBERS OF AD-HOC GROUP), DERMARK, SWITZERLAND, AUSTRA-
LIA, AND NETHERLANDS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW
WP.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS SITUA- TION (DAF/CCP/74.36)

NORWAY PROPOSED NEW WORKING PARTY TO EXAMINE SHORT AND
LONG TERM EFFECTS OF ENERGY/RAW MATERIALS SITUATION
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AFFECTING CONSUMERS. COMMITTEE DECIDED AD-HOC GROUP
SHOULD EXAMINE NEED FOR PROPOSED WP. SO FAR, THE NORDIC
COUNTRIES, AUSTRIA, FRANCE, THE UK AND THE BENELUX COUN-
TRIES HAVE DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NOVEMBER 8
MEETING.
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